

Steel Magnolias - Audition Monologues

Truvy:

(Telling Annelle her company policies after she has just employed her as the new beauty shop assistant)

I have a strict philosophy that I have stuck to for fifteen years... "There's no such thing as natural beauty". That's why I have never lost a client to the Kut and Kurl or The Beauty Box. Remember that, or we're out of a job.

You must live close by. Within walking distance, I mean. I didn't see a car. You live over at Robeline's, right? Ruth Robeline, now there's a story. She's a twisted, troubled soul. Her life's been an experiment in terror. Husband killed in Vietnam. I have to tell you, when it comes to suffering, she's right up there with Elizabeth Taylor.

M'Lynn:

(Talking to the women about Shelby's death when they turned her life support machine off)

I stayed there... I kept on pushing. Just like I always did where Shelby was concerned...hoping she would sit up and argue with me. But finally, we all realised that there was no hope. At that point I panicked. I was afraid that I wouldn't survive the next few minutes when they turned off the machines. Drum couldn't take it. He left. Jackson couldn't take it. He left. It struck me as amusing. Men are supposed to be made of steel or something. But I couldn't leave. I just sat there holding Shelby's hand while the sounds got softer and the beeps got further apart until all was quiet. There was no noise, no tremble. Just peace. I realised as a woman how lucky I was. I was there when this wonderful person drifted into this world, and I was there when she drifted out. It was the most precious moment of my life so far.

Shelby:

(talking to her mom about her pregnancy and explaining why she has went against the doctor's advice not to have children with her health condition)

Mama. I don't know why you have to make everything so difficult. I look at having this baby as the opportunity of a lifetime. Sure, there may be some risk involved. That's true for anybody. But you get through it and life goes on. And when it's all said and done there'll be a piece of immortality with Jackson's looks and my sense of style...I hope. Mama, please. I need your support. I would rather have thirty minutes of wonderful than a lifetime of nothing special.

Ouiser:

(arguing with Clairee about attending a trip to the theatre in New York to become cultured))

Let's get one thing straight. I don't see plays because I can nap at home for free. I don't see movies because they're all trash and full of naked people. And I don't read books because if they're any good, they'll be made into a mini-series. And as far as Owen is concerned, Clairee, a dirty mind is a terrible thing to waste. We are friends.



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He would like more. I'm dealing with that. But I am old and set in my ways. Besides, I can't help that men find me desirable.

Clairee: (Telling the women about her gay nephew)

I'm such a nosy old thing. I asked him how he...met people. 'Cause in my day you could tell by a man's carriage and demeanor by which side his bread was buttered on. But today? In this day and age? Who knows? I asked Marshall, "How can you tell?" and he says "All gay men have track lightin. And all gay men are named Mark, Rick, or Steve." (laughs) He is such a nut...track lightin (laughs).

Annelle: (talking to M'lynn about Shelby's death)

I think in Shelby's case, she wanted to take care of that baby, of you, of everybody she knew... and her poor body was just worn out. It wouldn't let her do everything she wanted to do. So she went to on to a place where she could be a guardian angel. She will always be young. She will always be beautiful. And I personally feel much safer knowing she's up there on my side. I know some people might think that sounds real simple and stupid... and maybe I am. But that's how I get through things like this.